19th December 1953]

"(c) The scheme has been included in the Special Minor Irrigation Programme for 1953–54 which is awaiting the financial sanction of the Government of India. The plans and estimate for the work are being revised by the local officers under instructions from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation).

"(d) Does not arise."

Administrative Officer for the Lignite Mines at Neiveli.

* 163 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether any post as Administrative Officer has been created and an officer has been posted at the Lignite Mines in Neiveli in South Arcot district, and, if so, when the post was created and for what purposes?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—"Yes, Sir. The post of Administrative Officer, Lignite Investigation, was created in April 1953 to be in charge of the financial and administrative side of the lignite project and to be in overall charge of the accounts of the project."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—"நெய்வேலி பழுப்பு நிலக்கரிச் சுரங்கம் சம்பந்தமாக எந்த நுணுக்கமும் தெரியாத ஒரு ரெவினியூ அதிகாரியைப் போட்டு இருப்பதால், ஸ்ரீ கோஷ் அவர்களால் செலவு செய்யப்பட்ட தொகை எந்த அளவு நேர்மையானது, நியாயமானது என்பதைப் பார்க்காமல் லக்ஷக்கணக்கான ரூபாய் வீணாக செலவிடப்படுவது அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தெரியுமா? அப்படியிருந்தால், நிபுணத்வம் வாய்ந்த ஒரு பெரிய எஞ்சினீயரை ஏன் போடக்கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன்?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—"Sir, I can tell the hon. Member that subsequent to this appointment, the High Power Committee has suggested the appointment of a Superintending Engineer or an Executive Engineer to be in charge of the engineering side of the project and we have asked the Chief Engineer to suggest some names."

Construction of Tirur bridge.

* 164 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long the proposal for the construction of Tirur bridge on Tirur-Purapparamba road, Malabar, has been under consideration of the Government ; and

(*b*) the stage where the proposal now stands?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—"(*a*) & (*b*) Government sanctioned the execution of this bridge work by the Malabar District Board along with certain other works in 1947–48. This was not however taken up for execution by the district board for want of funds. The district board will take up the work when funds become available."